



Community News

Community Pays Respect to Two Bay Area Firefighters Fallen in the Line of Duty



Funeral services were held on Friday, July 27th at the Concord Pavilion to honor two heroic Contra Costa County firefighters who died while trying to rescue an elderly couple from a house fire in unincorporated San Pablo.

In the early morning hours of Saturday, July 21st, [the](#) two firefighters who were killed in the line of duty were Captain Matt Burton, 34, of Concord and Fire Engineer Scott Desmond, 37, of Brentwood.

More than 4,000 people from all over the state and nation including fire departments from the 18th Assembly District came to pay respect to the two fallen firefighters. It was the first time in more than three decades that Contra Costa County Fire District had a firefighter die in the line of duty. During the services, fire personnel from across the state covered the Contra Costa County fire stations so that the colleagues of the two firefighters could attend the memorial.

A memorial fund has been set-up to benefit the families of the two firefighters. Mr. Burton leaves behind a wife and two children. Mr. Desmond leaves behind a wife and one child. For more information, please inquire at IAFF Local 1230 Widows and Orphans Fund, 112 Blue Ridge Drive, Martinez, CA 94553.



Agreement Reached in Waste Management Lock-Out

For nearly four weeks, union workers have been locked-out of their jobs by Waste Management, Inc. after the two sides were unable to agree upon a new labor contract. On Friday, a settlement had been reached between the two parties and on Saturday, the union ratified the agreement. Teamster's Local 70 workers are back on the job today.



These have been trying times for not only the locked-out workers but also for customers serviced by Waste Management who had to endure nearly three weeks of limited or no service. Pictured to the left, Assemblymember Hayashi offers support and talks with the locked-out workers outside of the Davis Street Transfer Station in San Leandro

Assemblymember Hayashi has [joint](#)-authored a bill (AB 1709) introduced by Assemblymember Loni Hancock that would attempt to prevent this type of service interruption in the future. The bill would allow a public agency who contracts with a non-public private entity that collects, transfers, or otherwise dispose of solid waste or recycling materials to declare a temporary local public health emergency when the nonpublic entity is unable to perform the contract service.

Assemblymember Hayashi Hosted an Identity Theft Workshop in Pleasanton



Prompted by recent credit card scams at grocery and drug stores in the East Bay, Assemblymember Mary Hayashi (D-Hayward) hosted an Identity Theft Workshop with local and state experts on Friday, July 20th at the offices of the Deputy Sheriffs' Association of Alameda County in Pleasanton.

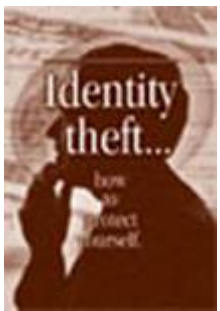
More than 130 residents came to listen about how they can protect themselves from being a victim of identity theft, or as the speakers stated, learn how to mitigate the damage as best as you can. Speakers included Ms. Joanne McNabb, Chief of the California Office of Privacy Protection; Ms. Nanette Madsen, Deputy Director of Department of Consumer Affairs and Head of the CyberSafety.org Program for California; and Detective Greg Swetnam and Lieutenant Tom Madigan, identity theft investigators from the Alameda County Sheriff's Department.

This past spring, hundreds of shoppers in the East Bay were victimized by high-tech thieves at area grocery and drug stores. The thieves stole over \$1.3 million from unsuspecting shoppers by installing credit card skimmers at the cash registers. The thieves captured credit/debit card numbers and Personal Identification Numbers and used them to make fraudulent purchases and withdraw funds from the victims' bank accounts.

Assemblymember Hayashi has introduced the Consumer Sales Security Act (AB 814) in response to this new type of credit card fraud. The bill would make crimes involving the illegal tampering of Electronic Funds Transfer devices a felony. The Consumer Sales Security Act would also increase funding for law enforcement agencies to investigate consumer identity theft cases and require the Office of Privacy Protection to develop an identify theft prevention program for businesses and retailers.

Warning - New Identity Theft Scam Using Caller I.D. Spoofing to Steal Personal Information

Identity theft thieves are using Caller I.D. on phones as a tool to steal your information. Thieves have been targeting residents in the Central Valley and it is feared that East Bay residents may become their next victims.



The scam works like this: First, the thieves steal your credit card statements from your mail. Within a few days, they will call you posing as a credit card representative that your cards may have fraudulent charges on them. In order to verify that you are the cardholder, they will ask you a series of questions such as the card number, the three digit security code on the back of the card, and possibly your social security number. To make it look official, the thieves use computer online services that allow the Caller I.D. to show up as the credit card company of the statement that was stolen in the mail. Once you give the thieves the information in attempt to verify yourself, they have all the information they need to steal your identity.

To protect yourself, it is suggested that you switch to a locked mailbox. If you already have an account with a bank or credit card company, then they already have your personal information and it is not needed to be verified over the phone. If you suspect the call is fraudulent, then hang up and contact the company using a phone number through directory assistance to verify the purpose of the previous call.

Dr. Joel Kinnamon Appointed as Chancellor of Chabot – Las Positas Community College District



As the Chair of the Select Committee on Community Colleges, it is my pleasure to welcome Dr. Kinnamon as the new chancellor of Chabot-Las Positas Community College District.

Dr. Kinnamon has over 18 years of community college service. Prior to being appointed chancellor, Dr. Kinnamon served the past five years as the Vice Chancellor of Educational Services and Planning at the district.

Dr. Kinnamon will focus on placing students' needs first by acquiring additional funding from government and business leaders, enhance the inclusiveness and reliability of participatory governance, and streamline processes and service that support the colleges.

Dr. Dennis Byas Selected as the New Superintendent at San Lorenzo Unified School District



Please welcome our newest Superintendent, Dr. Dennis Byas, of San Lorenzo Unified School District.

The Board of San Lorenzo Unified School District appointed Dr. Byas to succeed the position vacated by retiring and former Superintendent Arnie Glassberg. Mr. Byas served the previous eight years as superintendent at the Colton Joint Unified School District in Southern California.

His focus at San Lorenzo will be to enhance school facilities, improve student academic performance and launch a new foundation that benefits all students.

Free School Lunch Program Available During the Summer



Assemblymember Hayashi reminds parents that the free and reduced-priced school lunch program for low income families is available throughout the summer. More than 50,000 kids take advantage of the school lunch program in Alameda County during the school year, but only a quarter of them do so in the summer. Hayashi fears that many children are going hungry or lack nutritional meals during the summer. Please help spread the word and help end hunger in Alameda County.

For the free school lunch location and times, please go to following website:

http://www.summerlunch.org/Alameda_Lunch_Sites.pdf

Tax Refund? Homeowner and Renter Assistance Program – Filing Season Ends October 15, 2007

Franchise Tax Board (FTB)
Collecting the income taxes California depends on.

Homeowners: Homeowner assistance is a once a year payment from the State of California of a percentage of the property taxes the county assesses and requires you to pay on your home. The amount a claimant may be eligible for ranges from \$19.72 to \$472.60.

Who is eligible for homeowner assistance? You may be eligible to file a 2007 claim for homeowner assistance if you were one of the following on December 31, 2006: 62 years of age or older, Blind, Disabled **And you meet all of the following requirements:** You owned and lived in your own home on December 31, 2006.

You had a total household income of \$42,770 or less in 2006. You are a United States citizen, or a designated alien or qualified alien when you file your claim.

Renters: Renter assistance is a once a year payment from the State of California of a portion of the property taxes that you pay indirectly when you pay your rent. The amount a claimant may be eligible for ranges from \$15.00 to \$347.50.

Who is eligible for renter assistance? You may be eligible to file a 2007 claim for renter assistance if you were one of the following on December 31, 2006: 62 years of age or older, Blind, Disabled **And you meet all of the following requirements:** You lived in a qualified rented residence in California in 2006. You paid \$50 or more rent per month on that residence. You had a total household income of \$42,770 or less in 2006. You are a United States citizen, or a designated alien or qualified alien when you file your claim.

For More Information – [Click Here](#).

Upcoming Events

Tinsel Town Hall Featuring an Advanced Sneak Preview of “Arctic Tale” – Completely Filled



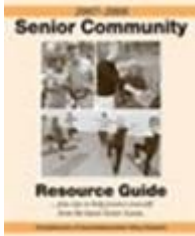
More than 200 people have already reserved their seats for Assemblymember Mary Hayashi's second Tinsel Town Hall to discuss global warming and its impact on California. A wait list is available by calling the district office at (510) 583-8818 in case of cancellations.

The Tinsel Town Hall will feature an advanced screening of Paramount Classic's movie, *Arctic Tale*, produced by National Geographic Films on Thursday, August 2nd at Regal Cinemas Hacienda Crossings 20 located at 5000 Dublin Road in Dublin from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

“Global Warming is an environmental disaster on a worldwide scale that is caused by the excessive production of greenhouse gases released into our atmosphere,” stated Assemblymember Hayashi. “Californians can be proud that we lead the nation in an effort to regulate and reduce emissions that cause global warming. Last year, the legislature passed AB 32 that will lower California's greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2020.”

The results of AB 32 can be realized sooner if every Californian adopts energy conservation techniques such as buying energy saving automobiles and appliances, weatherizing your home, and replacing condolescent lightbulbs with compact fluorescent lightbulbs. Assemblymember Hayashi will provide literature at the Tinsel Town Hall on how each family can help eliminate global warming by utilizing the latest clean technologies.

Assemblymember Hayashi Hosts a Series of Mobile District Offices at Senior Centers



Assemblymember Mary Hayashi is hosting a series of Mobile District Offices (MDOs) at local senior centers. The MDOs will take place on:

- Monday, July 30th at the Kenneth Aitken Senior Center located at 17800 Redwood Road in Castro Valley from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.;
- Tuesday, July 31st at the Marina Community Center located at 15301 Wicks Boulevard in San Leandro from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.;
- Wednesday, August 1st at the Dublin Senior Center located at 7600 Amador Valley Blvd. from 10:40 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

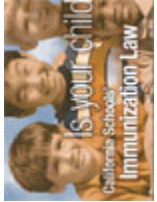
Assembly staff will be available to answer questions and address any concerns the community may have regarding state agencies. Seniors will receive complimentary copies of the 2007-2008 Senior Community Resource Guide. The guide provides listings of federal, state, and local community and non-profit services available to seniors. The guide also includes a section on senior scams and tips to avoid becoming a victim of fraud and theft. Other informational literature will be available on topics such as stroke, diabetes, high blood pressure, identity theft prevention, and earthquake preparedness.

“Many seniors have a difficult time attending district events throughout the year, so I decided to bring my district office to them,” said Assemblymember Hayashi. “My staff will be available to listen, offer invaluable resource guides, and assist seniors with issues of importance.”

The Mobile District Offices are open to the public. For more information, please contact Assemblymember Hayashi's district office at (510) 583-8818 or visit her website at www.assembly.ca.gov/hayashi.

Resources Available

Publications Available



Child Immunization Law



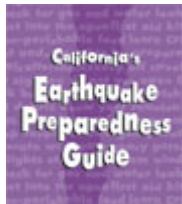
Ovarian Cancer Resource Guide



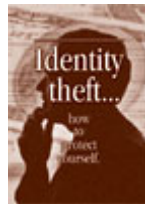
High Blood Pressure



Senior Resource Guide



Earthquake Preparedness Guide



ID Theft Guide



Diabetes Guide



Stroke: Don't ignore the risk factors!



Breast Cancer Resource Guide



Children's Coloring Book – How a Bill Becomes Law

Free community resource guides are now available in print or online through Assemblymember Mary Hayashi's district office. Over the next few weeks, copies will be made available throughout the 18th Assembly District at senior centers, libraries, health clinics, and community organizations. If you or your organization would like printed copies, contact the district office at (510) 583-8818.

State Resources Website



Want to find energy saving tips for the summer? Find it and over 170 other state resource links that offer valuable information such as how to find a smog-check only station, how to receive free cash for college, how to protect yourself from identity theft, and how to apply for a FasTrak toll device.

To visit the new webpage, log on to Assemblymember Hayashi's official homepage at www.assembly.ca.gov/hayashi and click on the *State Resources Websites* link. This will lead web browsers to a list of service-based websites. From there click on any of the service links and be directed to the appropriate state agency's website.

Whether you're looking for tips to save on prescriptions or attempting to find the nearest recycling center, this new webpage is a convenient and comprehensive resource.

If you prefer not to receive email updates or correspondences from the Office of Assemblymember Hayashi, please opt-out by emailing your request to Christopher.parman@asm.ca.gov.